

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, ANNAHILT

**THE ORDER FOR
MORNING PRAYER**

ON
SUNDAY 24 JULY 2022
10.00AM

CONDUCTED BY THE RECTOR
THE REV'D CANON ROBERT HOWARD

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Hymn CH 336

Jesus, where'er thy people meet,
there they behold thy mercy-seat;
where'er they seek thee, thou art found,
and every place is hallowed ground.

For thou, within no walls confined,
inhabitest the humble mind;
such ever bring thee where they come,
and going, take thee to their home.

Dear Shepherd of thy chosen few,
thy former mercies here renew;
here to our waiting hearts proclaim
the sweetness of thy saving name.

Here may we prove the power of prayer
to strengthen faith and sweeten care,
to teach our faint desires to rise,
and bring all heaven before our eyes.

Lord, we are few but thou art near;
nor short thine arm, nor deaf thine ear;
O rend the heavens, come quickly down,
and make a thousand hearts thine own!

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and make a thousand hearts thine own!

The Rector introduces the Service with these words

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Jesus said ‘Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age’
St Matthew 28: 20

Beloved in Christ,
we come together to offer to Almighty God
our worship and praise and thanksgiving,
to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness,
to hear his holy word proclaimed,
to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world,
and to pray that in the power of his Spirit
we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

Kneel

Silence is kept.

Heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault;
by what we have done
and by what we have failed to do.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Rector pronounces the absolution.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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Stand

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth will proclaim your praise.

God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for ever. Amen.

Praise the Lord.
The Lord s name be praised.

FIRST CANTICLE

VENITE v1-7

- 1 O come let us | sing un·to the Lord; ■
let us heartily rejoice in the | strength of | our sal|vation.
- 2 Let us come before his | presence · with | thanksgiving ■
and show ourselves | glad in | him with | psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a | great | God ■
and a great | King a·bove | all | gods.
- 4 In his hand are all the | corners · of the | earth ■
and the strength of the | hills is | his | also.
- 5† The sea is his and | he | made it, ■
and his | hands pre|pared the · dry | land.
- 6 O come let us worship and | fall | down ■
and kneel be|fore the | Lord our | Maker.
- 7 For he is the | Lord our | God; ■
and we are the people of his pasture, | and the | sheep of · his | hand.

Glory to the Father, and | to the | Son, and | to the | Holy | Spirit:
As it was in the be | ginning is | now and shall be for | ever. A | men.

PSALM 85

- 1 Lord, you were gracious to your land; ♦
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- 2 You forgave the offence of your people ♦
and covered all their sins.
- 3 You laid aside all your fury ♦
and turned from your wrathful indignation.
- 4 Restore us again, O God our Saviour, ♦
and let your anger cease from us.

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- 4 Restore us again, O God our Saviour, ♦
and let your anger cease from us.

5 Will you be displeased with us for ever? ♦
Will you stretch out your wrath from one generation to another?
6 Will you not give us life again, ♦
that your people may rejoice in you?
7 Show us your mercy, O Lord, ♦
and grant us your salvation.
8 I will listen to what the Lord God will say, ♦
for he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful,
that they turn not again to folly.
9 Truly, his salvation is near to those who fear him, ♦
that his glory may dwell in our land.
10 Mercy and truth are met together, ♦
righteousness and peace have kissed each other;
11 Truth shall spring up from the earth ♦
and righteousness look down from heaven.
12 The Lord will indeed give all that is good, ♦
and our land will yield its increase.
13 Righteousness shall go before him ♦
and direct his steps in the way.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Sit

The Old Testament Reading is from the book of the prophet Hosea Chapter 1 beginning at verse 2

2 When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, ‘Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD.’³ So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

4 And the LORD said to him, ‘Name him Jezreel;— for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel.⁵ On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.’

6 She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the LORD said to him, ‘Name her Lo-ruhamah,⁶ for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them.⁷ But I will have pity on the house of

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Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen.'

8 When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son.⁹ Then the LORD said, 'Name him Lo-ammi,^{*} for you are not my people and I am not your God.'^{*}

10^{*} Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people', it shall be said to them, 'Children of the living God.'

Stand

SECOND CANTICLE

TE DEUM Parts 1 & 2

Part 1

- 1 We praise | thee O | God, ■
we acknowledge | thee to | be the | Lord.
- 2 All the earth doth | worship | thee, ■
the | Father | ever|lasting.
- 3 To thee all angels cry aloud
the heavens and all the | powers there|in, ■
to thee Cherubim and Seraphim con|tin·ual|ly do | cry,
- 4 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord | God · of Sa·baoth: ■
heaven and earth are full of the | majes·ty | of thy | glory.
- 5 The glorious company of the apostles | praise | thee; ■
the goodly fellowship of the | prophets | praise | thee.
- 6 The | noble | army ■ _ of | martyrs | praise | thee.
- 7 The | holy | Church ■
throughout all the world | doth ac|knowledge | thee;
- 8 The Father of an | infin·ite | majesty, ■
thine honourable, true, and only Son,
also the | Holy | Spirit · the | Comforter.

Part 2

- 9 Thou art the King of | glory · O | Christ. ■
Thou art the ever|lasting | Son of · the | Father.
- 10 When thou tookest upon thee to de|liver | man, ■
thou didst not ab|hor the | Virgin's | womb.
- 11† When thou hadst overcome the | sharpness · of | death, ■
thou didst open the kingdom of | heaven · to | all be|lievers.

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- 12 Thou sittest at the right | hand of | God, ■
in the | glory | of the | Father.
13 We be|lieve that | thou ■ — shalt | come to | be our | judge.
14 We therefore pray thee | help thy | servants, ■
whom thou hast re|deemed · with thy | precious | blood.
15 Make them to be numbered | with thy | saints ■
in | glory | ever|lasting

SECOND READING

The New Testament Reading is from the Gospel according to Saint Luke Chapter 11 beginning at verse 1

11 He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.’ ² He said to them, ‘When you pray, say:
Father,* hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.*
³ Give us each day our daily bread.*
⁴ And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial.*

5 And he said to them, ‘Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, “Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.”’ ⁷ And he answers from within, “Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.” ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

9 ‘So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for* a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit* to those who ask him!’

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THIRD CANTICLE

BENEDICTUS

1 Blessed be the Lord | God of | Israel, · for he hath visited | and re | deemed his | people,
 2 And hath raised up a mighty sal | vation | for us · in the | house of · his | servant | David;
 3 As he spake by the mouth of his | holy | Prophets · which have been | since the | world be | gan;
 4 That we should be | saved from our | enemies, · and from the | hands of | all that | hate us,
 5 To perform the mercy | promised.to our | forefathers, · and to re | member. his | holy | covenant;
 6 To perform the oath which he sware to our | fore.father | Abraham: ·
 that | he would | give | us,
 7 That we being delivered out of the | hand of.our | enemies · might serve | him with | out | fear,
 8 In holiness and | righteous.ness be | fore him · all the | days | of our | life.
 9 And thou, child, shalt be called the | Prophet.of the | Highest, · for thou shalt go before the face of the | Lord.to pre | pare his | ways;
 10 To give knowledge of salvation | unto.his | people, ·f or the re | mission | of their | sins,
 11 Through the tender mercy | of our | God · whereby the day-spring from on | high hath | visit.ed | us,
 12 To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the | shadow.of | death; · and to guide our feet | into.the | way of | peace.
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 As it was in the be | ginning is | now and shall be for | ever. A | men.

THE APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died and was buried;
 he descended to the dead.**

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**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Kneel

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The versicles and responses may be said.

Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen
and grant her government wisdom.

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
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Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness
and let your servants shout for joy.

O Lord, save your people
and bless those whom you have chosen.

Give peace in our time, O Lord,
and let your glory be over all the earth.

O God, make clean our hearts within us
and renew us by your Holy Spirit

THE COLLECTS

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
Grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,
as by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord,
to know you is eternal life, and to serve you is perfect freedom:
Defend us in all assaults of our enemies,
that we, surely trusting in your protection,
may not fear the power of any adversaries;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everliving God,
we give you thanks for bringing us safely to this day:
Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger,
and in all things guide us to know and do your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn CH 80

Great is thy faithfulness, 0 God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not,
as thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness,
morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

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*Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness,
morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

*Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness,
morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Prayers and thanksgivings may be said.

OCCASIONAL PRAYERS

We pray for this Group of Parishes and for the various youth activities taking place at the Kilbroney Centre, Rostrevor, that we may apply the lessons of the seed in how we live day by day:

Lord Jesus, you have taught us the lessons of the seed: the seed that springs up and grows in ways unknown to us; the seed that though smallest becomes a great plant; the seed that gives its life that new life may be multiplied. Write these lessons of faith, hope and love on our hearts, that our lives may yield an abundant harvest in your service, to the glory of your name. **Amen.**

Let us pray for rural areas and the people who live there:

For the long-term residents who live where their parents and their grandparents lived;
for those who live on and work on large mechanized farms;
for those who live and work on small farms and holdings;
for the very wealthy who own great areas of land;
for those who own nothing;
for those who live in villages;
for those who work in country crafts and industries;
for all whose work is lonely, dangerous and a cause for anxiety and stress;
for those who are unemployed;
for those who work in urban areas but have country homes;
for newcomers who find country life strange;

Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

*Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness,
morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
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for country doctors and nurses, and for veterinary surgeons with country practices;
for those who develop the rural holiday industry;
for those who provide transport services;
for local councillors, Members of Parliament, Assembly Members, editors of newspapers and all who help the rural communities in their life together;
and for all Christian people, their churches and their clergy.
Grant, Lord, that your church in country areas may have special grace, power and wisdom to be your body and proclaim your word, so that people may befriend each other, learn from one another and create caring communities in times of change, for the good of all and to the praise of your name. **Amen.**

We pray for our country at this time of great concern, instability and anxiety:

We thank you, Lord, for the record of long ages in which prophets and kings have worked together. Hear our prayer for all our public representatives, especially at Stormont and at Westminster. May all involved in the election of a new Prime Minister learn the lessons of history, meet its challenges in the present, and be given vision for the future. May the candidates' policies and intended decisions be true to your will and achievable in your world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for an awareness of others' rights:

We pray, O God, for our human brothers and sisters in parts of the world where the harshness of nature and the strife of the nations have brought sufferings longer and deeper than we have yet known.

We pray for the people of Ukraine and especially for those who are oppressed, in want, or forced to flee from home and family.

By the spirit of Jesus, restrain and change those who seek their own advantage from others' sufferings. Open the eyes of those who are so used to thinking of themselves as always in the right and finding themselves always comfortable that they do not see others' injustices and deprivations. Make them and us followers, in deed as in word, of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

We pray for all on holiday at this time:

Lord Jesus, we remember how you needed to withdraw from the daily pressures of life in Galilee, and so we pray today for your

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servants who are on holiday. Like you, may we be strengthened by drawing near to God the Father; may they be refreshed by rest and relaxation; may they find happiness among family and friends; may they be prepared to meet and overcome whatever pressures shall confront them when they return to daily responsibilities; and day by day, may we all live to your honour and glory. **Amen.**

We give thanks for life and witness of Stephen Connolly in particular his ministry as Diocesan Reader and as a School Teacher especially as Headmaster of Bangor Grammar School:

We give thanks to you, our Father, for all your servants departed this life in your faith and fear; for the memory of their words and deeds; for the sure and certain hope of reunion with them hereafter; for the joy that is now theirs, free from earth's sin and sorrow; and for our communion with them in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray for all who mourn:

God of hope and giver of all comfort, we commend to your keeping those who mourn the loss of loved ones and especially for Stephen's wife Jane, son Edward and the entire family circle.

Give them the peace that passes all understanding, and make them to know that neither death nor life can separate them from your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Hymn CH 319

Father, of heaven, whose love profound
A ransom for our souls has found,
Before your throne we sinners bend;
To us your pardoning love extend.

Almighty Son, incarnate Word,
Our prophet, priest, redeemer, Lord,
Before your throne we sinners bend;
To us your saving grace extend.

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath
The soul is raised from sin and death,
Before Thy throne we sinners bend;
To us Thy quickening power extend.

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To us Thy quickening power extend.

Thrice holy, Father, Spirit, Son;
Mysterious Godhead, Three in One,
Before your throne we sinners bend;
Grace, pardon, life to us extend.

THE SERMON

Hymn T&P 156 (Tune CH 92)

We bring you, Lord, our prayer and praise
that every child of earth
should live and grow in freedom's ways,
in dignity and worth.

We praise for such a task begun
to serve each other's need,
for every cause of justice won,
for every fetter freed.

Our prayers are for a world in pain
where force and fear prevail,
the plough becomes the sword again,
and hope and harvests fail.

Alike our prayer and praise express
the wants of humankind,
that those in bondage and distress
their larger freedoms find.

So may we still maintain the fight
till earth's oppression cease
before the universal right
to liberty and peace.

In Christ we learn to love and care
and spread his truth abroad;
and in his name we life our prayer:
'Your kingdom come , O Lord.'

THE BLESSING

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always. (*All sing*) Amen.

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Notices

Hymn CH 597 (Tune 2nd)

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my intellect and use
Every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine;
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is thine own;
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store:
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

Going Out as God's People

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

**Please remain seated following this service
until advised by a Churchwarden**

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